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WILD MAN
GOBLIN
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I WANT TO SPEAK TO DANA! TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON IMMEDIATELY!
I DEMAND TO KNOW! AND IF THIS IS TOO MUCH OF A DIFFICULTY FOR YOU...
THEN GET ME PRESIDENT DOOM ON THE LINE IMMEDIATELY!
THAT...ISN'T POSSIBLE JUST NOW. THERE'S PROBLEMS WITH--
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ABOUT PROBLEMS, DOCTOR! I WANT TO HEAR THE TRUTH!
NOW!
... ALL RIGHT, MR. STONE. IF YOU INSIST.
I REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT MISS D'ANGELO IS DEAD.
Tell me now.

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JUDAS GOAT
A Stan Lee Presentation
YOU SHOULD BE LEARNING TO WATCH YOUR BACK, SPIDER-MAN!
ARRHHH!!
IF YOU'D LIKE, I'LL GIVE YOU THE CHANCE TO TURN AND FACE YOUR DESTROYER...
...BEFORE I COMPLETE MY WORK!
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UNBELIEVABLE.
I CAN'T GO ANYWHERE... EVEN DOWNTOWN.. WITHOUT SOME NUT TRYING TO KILL ME...
THAT CLOSE-UP BURST...NEAR SHOCKIN' BLINDED ME, WITH MY ACCELERATED VISION...
AND HE'S GOT MORE UP HIS SLEEVE.
I THINK... THERE WAS A BUILDING OVER THERE...
YES...
WHO THE SHOCK ARE YOU?!
I AM THE GOBLIN! AND I AM HERE TO REVEAL YOU FOR THE FRAUD YOU ARE!
ONE MASKED GUY CALLING ANOTHER MASKED GUY A FRAUD IS A BIT IRONIC, DON'T YOU THINK?

YOUR SENSE OF IRONY DOESN'T INTEREST ME... NOR DO YOU YOURSELF, REALLY...
BEYOND THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE BETRAYED THE GOOD PEOPLE OF DOWNTOWN...
...AND MUST BE FORCED TO CONFESS.
ALTHOUGH I DOUBT THAT ONE SUCH AS YOU COULD EVER BE GENUINELY PENITENT.
SHRAK
HUH?
THERE. THAT WASN'T MUCH OF A CHORE.

ARE YOU SURE THE MESSAGE WAS REALLY FROM THE GOBLIN, KASE?
AW, C'MON, RAFF, WHO THE SHOCK ELSE IS GONNA SEND ME A MESSAGE SIGNED "GOBLIN," HUH?
HE SAID HE WAS GOING TO PROVE WHAT HE WAS SAYING ABOUT THE S-MAN, AND THAT I SHOULD BE IN THE SQUARE AREA...
Y'ASK ME, I DON'T CARE WHAT HE'S OUT TO PROVE ABOUT THE S-MAN.
I DON'T TRUST ANY OF 'EM, IF YOU GOTTA KNOW THE--
WAIT! UP THERE!
I SEE 'EM!

I CAN RELEASE YOU, SPIDER-MAN... BUT YOU MUST SWEAR...
...SWEAR TO MAKE A PUBLIC CONFESSION... SWEAR TO LEAVE DOWNTOWN FOREVER...
LEAVE IT SO THAT I CAN SAVE THE CITIZENS THE...
FWIZZ
EH?
GOT HIM. NOW TO REEL HIM IN...
...AND WE'LL SEE HOW HE RESPONDS TO DEMANDS WHEN IT'S HIS BUTT ON THE LINE.

OKAY, GOBLIN! YOU WANT TO SAVE DOWNTOWN? START BY SAVING BOTH OF US!
YOU FOOL! I CAN'T FLY TANGLED UP IN YOUR WEB!
THEN GET THIS BAT THING OFF ME AND I'LL SAVE US!
I'D RATHER WE BOTH DIE!
FINE!
FINE!
THIS GUY'S REALLY GETTING ON MY NERVES.

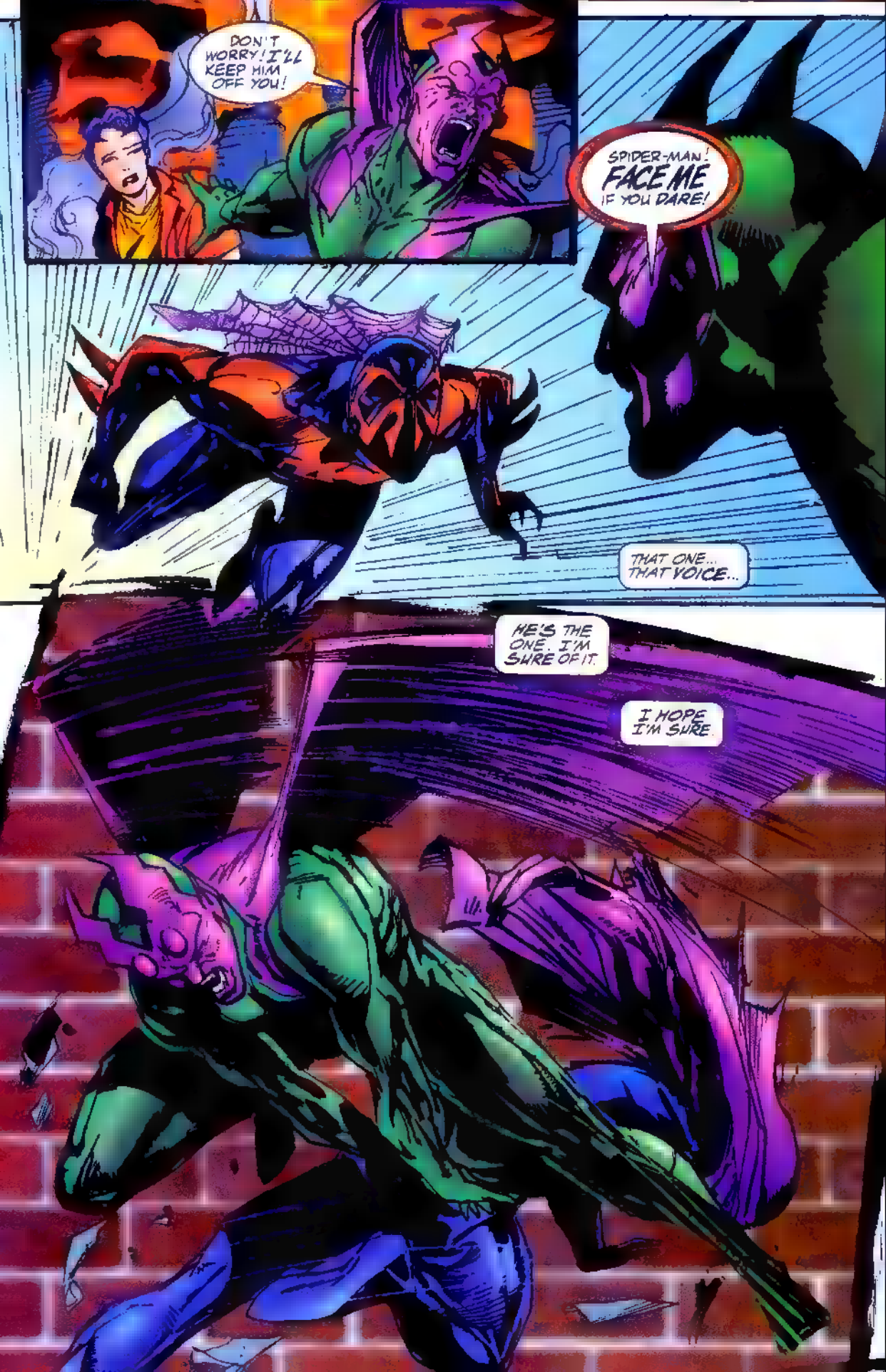
DOWNTOWN...
I SEEK FATHER JENNIFER. IS SHE ABOUT?
N...N...NOT AT THE MOMENT..
VERY WELL, THEN.
I'LL COME BACK.

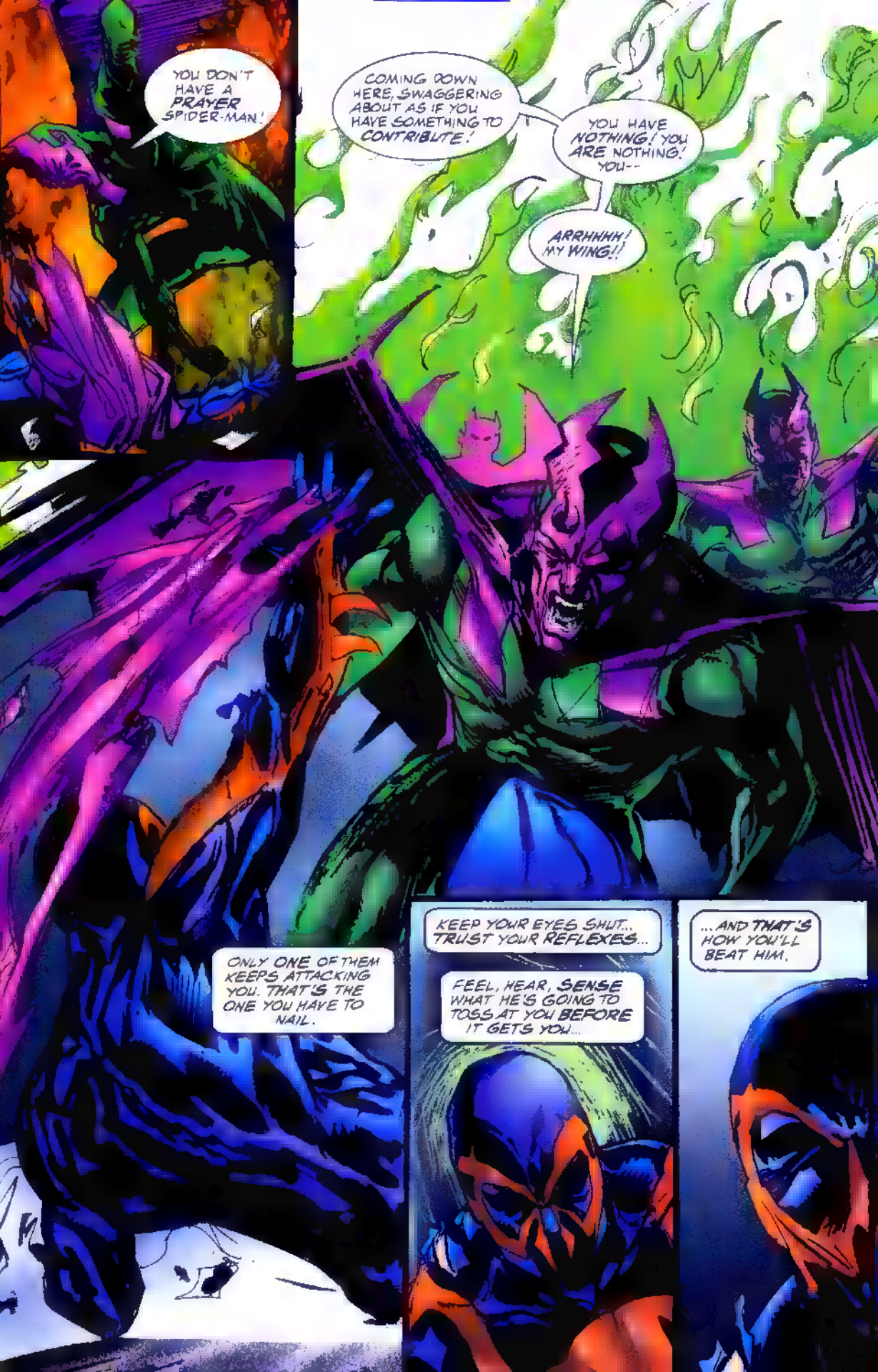
THEY'RE GONNA DIE... BOTH OF 'EM...
OH, ALL RIGHT, BLAST YOU!
BRAKK
SMART MOVE! NOW GO LOOSE! I'LL SNAG YOU!
THE DEVIL TAKE THAT... AND YOU, AS WELL!
IT'S MY MISSION TO RID THE WORLD OF HYPOCRITES AND FOOLS...

...SUCH AS YOU!
BLASTS EVERYWHERE... EVEN WITH MY ACCELERATED VISION, SPEED... HARD TO STAY ONE STEP AHEAD OF...
ARRHHH!
ALL AROUND ME... BIZARRE COLORS... AND GOBLINS... DOZENS OF HIM...

COULD HE HAVE... TOSSED ME INTO CYBERSPACE SOMEHOW...
S-MAN, GET AWAY FROM HIM!
AW, LET 'EM KILL EACH OTHER, AND WE'LL BE FINISHED WITH BOTH OF 'EM!
CAN'T GET IT SORTED OUT... JUST HAVE TO ATTACK ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING HE TOSSES AT ME...
...TAKE DOWN EVERY GOBLIN AND HOPE I NAIL THE ORIGINAL.
I CONFRONTED HIM WITH HIS LIES... AND HE LASHED OUT AT ME!
JUST AS HE'LL STRIKE OUT AT ANY WHO CHALLENGE HIM!

YOU SAW HOW CASUALLY HE STRUCK DOWN ONE OF YOUR OWN!
AND HE'LL WANT TO LEAVE NO WITNESSES, I PROMISE YOU!
HE'S YELLING SOMETHING... CAN'T MAKE IT OUT...
DOESN'T MATTER... HE'S JUST TRYING TO DISTRACT ME... CONFUSE ME...
AND HE'S DOING A HIDEOUSLY GOOD JOB.


DON'T WORRY! I'LL KEEP HIM OFF YOU!
SPIDER-MAN! FACE ME IF YOU DARE!
THAT ONE... THAT VOICE...
HE'S THE ONE. I'M SURE OF IT.
I HOPE I'M SURE.


YOU DON'T HAVE A PRAYER SPIDER-MAN!
COMING DOWN HERE, SWAGGERING ABOUT AS IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO CONTRIBUTE.
YOU HAVE NOTHING! YOU ARE NOTHING! YOU--
ARRHHHH! MY WING!!
ONLY ONE OF THEM KEEPS ATTACKING YOU. THAT'S THE ONE YOU HAVE TO NAIL.
KEEP YOUR EYES SHUT... TRUST YOUR REFLEXES...
FEEL, HEAR, SENSE WHAT HE'S GOING TO TOSS AT YOU BEFORE IT GETS YOU...
...AND THAT'S HOW YOU'LL BEAT HIM.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING THIS TIME, XINA?
I DON'T KNOW.
BUT ISN'T IT A BIT SOON TO GO ON VACATION AGAIN?
THIS ISN'T VACATION, JACK. BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW WHEN, OR IF I'M COMING BACK.
THE PROBLEM IS... I'M STILL ALIVE, AND I DON'T KNOW WHY.
WELL, FOR ONE THING, YOUR HEART IS BEATING. YOUR BRAIN FUNCTIONS ARE...
I MEAN FOR WHAT COSMIC PURPOSE THERE HAS TO BE A PURPOSE. AND I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT IT IS.
I'M GOING TO STAY AROUND LONG ENOUGH TO ATTEND DANA'S FUNERAL. I OWE HER THAT. AND THEN AFTER THAT...
I'M GONE.

JUST STANDING THERE, SPIDER-MAN?
HAVE YOU COME TO REALIZE...
THAT YOU'VE NO CHANCE? NO CHANCE AT--
HEAR HIS FEET.
FEEL THE RUSH OF AIR.
THERE. THIS SHOULD BE RIGHT IN FRONT OF HIM...
FWIZZ
YES! HE'S STOPPED MOVING, JUST FOR A SECOND...
NOW!
NOW!
NOW, YOU CREEP! YOU LOUSE!
I WAS MINDING MY OWN BUSINESS! NOT LOOKING FOR A FIGHT... NOT LOOKING FOR ANYTHING...
...AND THIS IDIOT COMES GUNNING FOR ME!

I'VE BEEN FIGHTING FROM THE DAY I PUT ON THIS COSTUME... FIRST FOR SURVIVAL...
...AND THEN WITH PEOPLE WHO HAVE NOTHING BETTER TO DO THAN ATTACK ME!
AND I AM SO
SHOCKIN'
SICK OF IT.
WORLD...FEELS LIKE IT'S DISSOLVING... GETTING EASIER TO THINK...
PEOPLE ALL AROUND... AND KASEY...
LORD, FOR A WHILE I THOUGHT I KNEW WHO YOU REALLY WERE...
AND NOW IT'S LIKE I DON'T KNOW YOU AT ALL!
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. HE...MADE ME SEE...
SEE WHAT? SEE THE TRUTH?
YOU'RE NO HERO FOR THE MASSES! YOU'RE JUST A CORPORATE STOOGE!

YOU WANT TO LISTEN TO THE GOBLIN'S LIES AND DISTORTIONS, GO RIGHT AHEAD!
YOU DON'T NEED A PROTECTOR! YOU NEED A KEEPER!
WHY DON'T YOU JUST KEEP GOING AND DON'T COME BACK!
OH REALLY? AND IF I FEEL LIKE COMING BACK?
WHAT'LL YOU DO ABOUT IT?
UH OH.
BLAM
BLAMM
BUDDA
BUDDA
BUDDA
SHEESH.

IT'S RAINING UP HERE. WELL, MY DAY'S COMPLETE.
WHAT THE SHOCK JUST HAPPENED?
I JUST GOT FIRED FROM A JOB I NEVER WANTED IN THE FIRST PLACE: PROTECTOR OF DOWNTOWN.
WHAT IS IT WITH PEOPLE? THEY DIDN'T HAVE TO BUY INTO WHAT THE GOBLIN WAS SAYING SO FAST.
PEOPLE MAKE YOU INTO A HERO... AND THEN TEAR YOU DOWN. AND THE HERO WHO NEVER ASKED FOR IDOLIZATION WINDS UP REGRETTING THE LOSS OF SOMETHING HE NEVER WANTED IN THE FIRST PLACE.
MAYBE DOOM HAS THE RIGHT IDEA. DON'T CARE ABOUT WHAT PEOPLE SAY. JUST TAKE POWER. DO WHAT YOU WANT, WHEN YOU WANT... AND EVERYTHING WILL BE...

WHAT THE SHOCK...?
THAT... THAT LOOKS LIKE PIECES OF AN EMP...
ONE OF... DOOM'S EMPS...
THE ONES HE CONTROLS FROM LIBERA CIELO IN WASHINGTON...
AND THERE'S MORE OF THEM... FALLING FROM...
DOOM... WHAT'S HAPPENED TO DOOM?

HUNH. IT'S RAINING SO HARD UPTOWN IT'S STARTING TO REACH OUR LESS LOFTY PLAINS DOWN HERE.
BUT NOT ALL THE WATER IN THE WORLD WILL WASH AWAY THE STENCH OF DOWNTOWN...
A GREAT, ROTTING CORPSE. NOW LEFT OPEN FOR MYSELF AND THE GOBLIN TO FEED UPON.
AND ONCE I'M RID OF THE GOBLIN...
I'LL HAVE IT ALL TO MYSELF.
NEXT: FUNEREAL